DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 439 789 PS 028 373

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TITLE Child Care: State Requirements for Background Checks.
INSTITUTION General Accounting Office, Washington, DC. Health, Education, and Human Services Div.
REPORT NO GAO/HEHS-00-66R
PUB DATE 2000-02-28
NOTE 31p.; For earlier child care safety report, see ED 438 061.
AVAILABLE FROM U.S. General Accounting Office, P.O. Box 6015, Gaithersburg, MD 20884-6015 (First copy, free, Additional copies, $2 each). Tel: 202-512-6000; Fax: 301-258-4066; e-mail: info@www.gao.gov. For full text: http://www.gao.gov/newitems/he0066r.pdf.
PUB TYPE Legal/Legislative/Regulatory Materials (090) -- Numerical/Quantitative Data (110)
EDRS PRICE MF01/PC02 Plus Postage.
DESCRIPTORS Child Abuse; *Child Caregivers; *Criminals; *Day Care; Day Care Centers; Early Childhood Education; Family Day Care; State Action; *State Regulation; State Standards; State Surveys
IDENTIFIERS *Background Checks (Employment)

ABSTRACT

Background checks involve gathering information from state and federal databases to determine if child care providers have a history of child abuse or other criminal convictions that would make them unacceptable for working with children. Background checks include state criminal history checks, state child abuse registry checks, and Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) checks. In response to a Congressional request, the Government Accounting Office provided information for each state about the background checks required for its regulated child care providers. The information expands on aggregate data presented on background check requirements in a previous report examining state activities to enforce child care requirements. The data used were collected by a survey sent to child care licensing directors in 50 states and the District of Columbia in May 1999. The correspondence indicates that all but four states require at least one type of check be conducted on their regulated providers, while many states require more than one be conducted. Also shown are which types of background checks are required by each state for regulated family child care homes, group homes, and child care centers. (EV)

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B-284725

February 28, 2000

The Honorable Pete Stark
The Honorable George Miller
The Honorable Sander M. Levin
House of Representatives

Subject: Child Care: State Requirements for Background Checks

This letter responds to your request that we provide information for each state about the background checks it requires to be conducted on its regulated child care providers. This information expands upon the aggregate data presented on background check requirements in our recent report, which examined state activities to enforce child care requirements.[1]

Background checks involve gathering information from state and federal databases to determine if providers have a history of child abuse or other criminal convictions that would make them unacceptable for working with children. As we reported, experts and the literature both identified conducting background checks as one of several critical licensing activities that help states ensure the safety and health of children in child care settings. Background checks on providers include state criminal history checks, state child abuse registry checks, and Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) checks. All but four states require that at least one type of check be conducted on their regulated providers, while many states require that more than one be conducted. The enclosure to this letter shows which types of background checks are required by each state for regulated family child care homes, group homes,[2] and child care centers.

The data used in our report and in this correspondence were collected through a survey sent to child care licensing directors in 50 states and the District of Columbia in May 1999; all surveys but one were returned. The survey asked about the extent to which licensing offices conducted critical enforcement activities, including background checks, during fiscal year 1999. We conducted our work for this correspondence between January and February 2000 in accordance with generally accepted government auditing standards.

[1] Child Care: State Efforts to Enforce Safety and Health Requirements (GAO/HEHS-00-28, Jan. 24, 2000).

[2] Typically, family child care consists of one provider caring for six or fewer children in the provider's home. Group home care usually involves two providers caring for 7 to 12 children in a provider's home.

PS 028373

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We are sending copies of this correspondence to the Honorable Olivia Golden, Assistant Secretary for Children and Families, Department of Health and Human Services; appropriate congressional committees; and other interested parties. We will also make copies available to others upon request.

If you or your staff have any questions about this correspondence, please contact me or Karen Whiten on (202) 512-7215. Janet L. Mascia made key contributions to this correspondence.

Cynthia M. Fagnoni
Director, Education, Workforce
and Income Security Issues

Enclosure

BACKGROUND CHECKS REQUIRED BY STATES FOR REGULATED OUT-OF-HOME CHILD CARE PROVIDERS, 1999

	State criminal history	State child abuse registry	FBI
Alabama[a]			
Family child care			
Provider			
Provider's assistant			
Provider's spouse			
Provider's minor children			
Other adults living in the provider's home			
Group home			
Provider			
Provider's assistant			
Provider's spouse			
Provider's minor children			
Other adults living in the provider's home			
Center			
Teaching staff			
Center director			
Other nonteaching staff			
Alaska[b]			
Family child care			
Provider			
Provider's assistant			
Provider's spouse			
Provider's minor children			
Other adults living in the provider's home			
Group home			
Provider			
Provider's assistant			
Provider's spouse			
Provider's minor children			
Other adults living in the provider's home			
Center			
Teaching staff			
Center director			
Other nonteaching staff			

Note: A check mark indicates that a background check is required by the state, while a blank indicates that a background check is not required.

	State criminal history	State child abuse registry	FBI
Arizona			
Family child care			
Provider	✓		✓
Provider's assistant	✓		✓
Provider's spouse	✓		✓
Provider's minor children			
Other adults living in the provider's home			
Group home			
Provider	✓		✓
Provider's assistant	✓		✓
Provider's spouse	✓		✓
Provider's minor children			
Other adults living in the provider's home	✓		✓
Center			
Teaching staff	✓		✓
Center director	✓		✓
Other nonteaching staff			
Arkansas			
Family child care			
Provider	✓	✓	✓
Provider's assistant	✓	✓	
Provider's spouse	✓	✓	
Provider's minor children			
Other adults living in the provider's home	✓	✓	
Group home			
Provider	✓	✓	✓
Provider's assistant	✓	✓	
Provider's spouse	✓	✓	
Provider's minor children			
Other adults living in the provider's home	✓	✓	
Center			
Teaching staff	✓	✓	
Center director	✓	✓	
Other nonteaching staff	✓	✓	

	State criminal history	State child abuse registry	FBI
California			
Family child care			
Provider	✓	✓	✓
Provider's assistant	✓	✓	✓
Provider's spouse	✓	✓	✓
Provider's minor children			
Other adults living in the provider's home	✓	✓	✓
Group home			
Provider	✓	✓	✓
Provider's assistant	✓	✓	✓
Provider's spouse	✓	✓	✓
Provider's minor children			
Other adults living in the provider's home	✓	✓	✓
Center			
Teaching staff	✓	✓	✓
Center director	✓	✓	✓
Other nonteaching staff	✓	✓	✓
Colorado			
Family child care			
Provider	✓	✓	
Provider's assistant	✓	✓	
Provider's spouse	✓	✓	
Provider's minor children		✓	
Other adults living in the provider's home	✓	✓	
Group home			
Provider	✓	✓	
Provider's assistant	✓	✓	
Provider's spouse	✓	✓	
Provider's minor children		✓	
Other adults living in the provider's home	✓	✓	
Center			
Teaching staff	✓	✓	
Center director	✓	✓	
Other nonteaching staff	✓	✓	

	State criminal history	State child abuse registry	FBI
Connecticut			
Family child care			
Provider	✓	✓	
Provider's assistant	✓	✓	
Provider's spouse	✓	✓	
Provider's minor children			
Other adults living in the provider's home	✓	✓	
Group home			
Provider	✓		
Provider's assistant	✓		
Provider's spouse			
Provider's minor children			
Other adults living in the provider's home			
Center			
Teaching staff	✓		
Center director	✓		
Other nonteaching staff	✓		
Delaware			
Family child care			
Provider	✓	✓	✓
Provider's assistant	✓	✓	✓
Provider's spouse	✓	✓	✓
Provider's minor children		✓	
Other adults living in the provider's home	✓	✓	✓
Group home			
Provider	✓	✓	✓
Provider's assistant	✓	✓	✓
Provider's spouse	✓	✓	✓
Provider's minor children		✓	
Other adults living in the provider's home	✓	✓	✓
Center			
Teaching staff	✓	✓	✓
Center director	✓	✓	✓
Other nonteaching staff	✓	✓	✓

	State criminal history	State child abuse registry	FBI
District of Columbia[a]			
Family child care			
Provider			
Provider's assistant			
Provider's spouse			
Provider's minor children			
Other adults living in the provider's home			
Group home[c]			
Provider			
Provider's assistant			
Provider's spouse			
Provider's minor children			
Other adults living in the provider's home			
Center			
Teaching staff			
Center director			
Other nonteaching staff			
Florida			
Family child care			
Provider	✓	✓	✓
Provider's assistant	✓	✓	✓
Provider's spouse	✓	✓	✓
Provider's minor children			
Other adults living in the provider's home	✓	✓	✓
Group home[c]			
Provider			
Provider's assistant			
Provider's spouse			
Provider's minor children			
Other adults living in the provider's home			
Center			
Teaching staff	✓	✓	✓
Center director	✓	✓	✓
Other nonteaching staff	✓	✓	✓

	State criminal history	State child abuse registry	FBI
Georgia			
Family child care			
Provider	✓		✓
Provider's assistant	✓		
Provider's spouse	✓		
Provider's minor children			
Other adults living in the provider's home	✓		
Group home			
Provider	✓		✓
Provider's assistant	✓		
Provider's spouse	✓		
Provider's minor children			
Other adults living in the provider's home			
Center			
Teaching staff	✓		
Center director	✓		✓
Other nonteaching staff	✓		
Hawaii			
Family child care			
Provider	✓	✓	✓
Provider's assistant			
Provider's spouse	✓	✓	✓
Provider's minor children			
Other adults living in the provider's home	✓	✓	✓
Group home			
Provider	✓	✓	✓
Provider's assistant	✓	✓	✓
Provider's spouse	✓	✓	✓
Provider's minor children			
Other adults living in the provider's home	✓	✓	✓
Center			
Teaching staff	✓	✓	✓
Center director	✓	✓	✓
Other nonteaching staff	✓	✓	✓

	State criminal history	State child abuse registry	FBI
Idaho			
Family child care			
Provider	✓	✓	✓
Provider's assistant	✓	✓	✓
Provider's spouse			
Provider's minor children			
Other adults living in the provider's home			
Group home			
Provider	✓	✓	✓
Provider's assistant	✓	✓	✓
Provider's spouse			
Provider's minor children			
Other adults living in the provider's home			
Center			
Teaching staff	✓	✓	✓
Center director	✓	✓	✓
Other nonteaching staff	✓	✓	✓
Illinois			
Family child care			
Provider	✓	✓	✓
Provider's assistant	✓	✓	✓
Provider's spouse	✓	✓	✓
Provider's minor children		✓	
Other adults living in the provider's home	✓	✓	✓
Group home			
Provider	✓	✓	✓
Provider's assistant	✓	✓	✓
Provider's spouse	✓	✓	✓
Provider's minor children		✓	
Other adults living in the provider's home	✓	✓	✓
Center			
Teaching staff	✓	✓	✓
Center director	✓	✓	✓
Other nonteaching staff	✓	✓	✓

	State criminal history	State child abuse registry	FBI
Indiana			
Family child care			
Provider	✓	✓	
Provider's assistant	✓	✓	
Provider's spouse	✓	✓	
Provider's minor children			
Other adults living in the provider's home	✓	✓	
Group home			
Provider	✓	✓	
Provider's assistant	✓	✓	
Provider's spouse	✓	✓	
Provider's minor children			
Other adults living in the provider's home	✓	✓	
Center			
Teaching staff	✓	✓	
Center director	✓	✓	
Other nonteaching staff	✓	✓	
Iowa			
Family child care			
Provider	✓	✓	
Provider's assistant	✓	✓	
Provider's spouse	✓	✓	
Provider's minor children	✓	✓	
Other adults living in the provider's home	✓	✓	
Group home			
Provider	✓	✓	
Provider's assistant	✓	✓	
Provider's spouse	✓	✓	
Provider's minor children	✓	✓	
Other adults living in the provider's home	✓	✓	
Center			
Teaching staff	✓	✓	
Center director	✓	✓	
Other nonteaching staff	✓	✓	

	State criminal history	State child abuse registry	FBI
Kansas			
Family child care			
Provider	✓	✓	
Provider's assistant	✓	✓	
Provider's spouse	✓	✓	
Provider's minor children	✓	✓	
Other adults living in the provider's home	✓	✓	
Group home			
Provider	✓	✓	
Provider's assistant	✓	✓	
Provider's spouse	✓	✓	
Provider's minor children	✓	✓	
Other adults living in the provider's home	✓	✓	
Center			
Teaching staff	✓	✓	
Center director	✓	✓	
Other nonteaching staff	✓	✓	
Kentucky			
Family child care			
Provider	✓		
Provider's assistant	✓		
Provider's spouse	✓		
Provider's minor children			
Other adults living in the provider's home	✓		
Group home			
Provider	✓	✓	
Provider's assistant	✓		
Provider's spouse	✓	✓	
Provider's minor children			
Other adults living in the provider's home	✓	✓	
Center			
Teaching staff	✓		
Center director	✓		
Other nonteaching staff	✓		

	State criminal history	State child abuse registry	FBI
Louisiana			
Family child care			
Provider			
Provider's assistant			
Provider's spouse			
Provider's minor children			
Other adults living in the provider's home			
Group home			
Provider			
Provider's assistant			
Provider's spouse			
Provider's minor children			
Other adults living in the provider's home			
Center			
Teaching staff	✓		
Center director	✓		
Other nonteaching staff	✓		
Maine			
Family child care			
Provider	✓	✓	
Provider's assistant	✓	✓	
Provider's spouse	✓	✓	
Provider's minor children		✓	
Other adults living in the provider's home	✓	✓	
Group home[a]			
Provider	✓	✓	
Provider's assistant	✓		
Provider's spouse	✓	✓	
Provider's minor children			
Other adults living in the provider's home	✓		
Center			
Teaching staff	✓		
Center director	✓	✓	
Other nonteaching staff	✓		

	State criminal history	State child abuse registry	FBI
Maryland			
Family child care			
Provider	✓	✓	✓
Provider's assistant	✓	✓	✓
Provider's spouse	✓	✓	✓
Provider's minor children			
Other adults living in the provider's home	✓	✓	✓
Group home[c]			
Provider			
Provider's assistant			
Provider's spouse			
Provider's minor children			
Other adults living in the provider's home			
Center			
Teaching staff	✓		✓
Center director	✓	✓	✓
Other nonteaching staff	✓		✓
Massachusetts			
Family child care			
Provider	✓		
Provider's assistant	✓		
Provider's spouse	✓		
Provider's minor children	✓		
Other adults living in the provider's home	✓		
Group home			
Provider	✓		
Provider's assistant	✓		
Provider's spouse	✓		
Provider's minor children	✓		
Other adults living in the provider's home	✓		
Center			
Teaching staff	✓		
Center director	✓		
Other nonteaching staff	✓		

	State criminal history	State child abuse registry	FBI
Michigan			
Family child care			
Provider	✓	✓	
Provider's assistant			
Provider's spouse	✓	✓	
Provider's minor children			
Other adults living in the provider's home	✓	✓	
Group home			
Provider	✓	✓	
Provider's assistant			
Provider's spouse	✓	✓	
Provider's minor children			
Other adults living in the provider's home	✓	✓	
Center			
Teaching staff			
Center director	✓	✓	
Other nonteaching staff			
Minnesota			
Family child care			
Provider	✓		
Provider's assistant	✓		
Provider's spouse	✓		
Provider's minor children	✓		
Other adults living in the provider's home	✓		
Group home			
Provider	✓		
Provider's assistant	✓		
Provider's spouse	✓		
Provider's minor children	✓		
Other adults living in the provider's home	✓		
Center			
Teaching staff	✓		
Center director	✓		
Other nonteaching staff	✓		

	State criminal history	State child abuse registry	FBI
Mississippi			
Family child care			
Provider	✓	✓	
Provider's assistant	✓	✓	
Provider's spouse	✓	✓	
Provider's minor children	✓	✓	
Other adults living in the provider's home	✓	✓	
Group home			
Provider	✓	✓	
Provider's assistant	✓	✓	
Provider's spouse	✓	✓	
Provider's minor children	✓	✓	
Other adults living in the provider's home	✓	✓	
Center			
Teaching staff	✓	✓	
Center director	✓	✓	
Other nonteaching staff	✓	✓	
Missouri			
Family child care			
Provider	✓	✓	
Provider's assistant	✓	✓	
Provider's spouse	✓	✓	
Provider's minor children		✓	
Other adults living in the provider's home	✓	✓	
Group home			
Provider	✓	✓	
Provider's assistant	✓	✓	
Provider's spouse	✓	✓	
Provider's minor children		✓	
Other adults living in the provider's home	✓	✓	
Center			
Teaching staff	✓	✓	
Center director	✓	✓	
Other nonteaching staff	✓	✓	

	State criminal history	State child abuse registry	FBI
Montana			
Family child care			
Provider	✓	✓	
Provider's assistant	✓	✓	
Provider's spouse	✓	✓	
Provider's minor children			
Other adults living in the provider's home	✓	✓	
Group home			
Provider	✓	✓	
Provider's assistant	✓	✓	
Provider's spouse	✓	✓	
Provider's minor children			
Other adults living in the provider's home	✓	✓	
Center			
Teaching staff	✓	✓	
Center director	✓	✓	
Other nonteaching staff	✓	✓	
Nebraska			
Family child care			
Provider		✓	
Provider's assistant		✓	
Provider's spouse		✓	
Provider's minor children		✓	
Other adults living in the provider's home		✓	
Group home			
Provider		✓	
Provider's assistant		✓	
Provider's spouse		✓	
Provider's minor children		✓	
Other adults living in the provider's home		✓	
Center			
Teaching staff		✓	
Center director		✓	
Other nonteaching staff		✓	

	State criminal history	State child abuse registry	FBI
Nevada			
Family child care			
Provider	✓	✓	✓
Provider's assistant	✓	✓	✓
Provider's spouse	✓	✓	✓
Provider's minor children			
Other adults living in the provider's home	✓	✓	✓
Group home			
Provider	✓	✓	✓
Provider's assistant	✓	✓	✓
Provider's spouse	✓	✓	✓
Provider's minor children			
Other adults living in the provider's home	✓	✓	✓
Center			
Teaching staff	✓	✓	✓
Center director	✓	✓	✓
Other nonteaching staff	✓	✓	✓
New Hampshire			
Family child care			
Provider	✓	✓	
Provider's assistant	✓	✓	
Provider's spouse	✓	✓	
Provider's minor children	✓	✓	
Other adults living in the provider's home	✓	✓	
Group home			
Provider	✓	✓	
Provider's assistant	✓	✓	
Provider's spouse	✓	✓	
Provider's minor children	✓	✓	
Other adults living in the provider's home	✓	✓	
Center			
Teaching staff	✓	✓	
Center director	✓	✓	
Other nonteaching staff	✓	✓	

	State criminal history	State child abuse registry	FBI
New Jersey			
Family child care			
Provider		✓	
Provider's assistant		✓	
Provider's spouse		✓	
Provider's minor children		✓	
Other adults living in the provider's home		✓	
Group home[a]			
Provider		✓	
Provider's assistant		✓	
Provider's spouse			
Provider's minor children			
Other adults living in the provider's home			
Center			
Teaching staff		✓	
Center director		✓	
Other nonteaching staff		✓	
New Mexico			
Family child care			
Provider	✓		✓
Provider's assistant	✓		✓
Provider's spouse	✓		✓
Provider's minor children			
Other adults living in the provider's home	✓		✓
Group home			
Provider			
Provider's assistant			
Provider's spouse			
Provider's minor children			
Other adults living in the provider's home			
Center			
Teaching staff	✓		✓
Center director	✓		✓
Other nonteaching staff	✓		✓

	State criminal history	State child abuse registry	FBI
New York			
Family child care			
Provider		✓	
Provider's assistant		✓	
Provider's spouse		✓	
Provider's minor children			
Other adults living in the provider's home		✓	
Group home			
Provider		✓	
Provider's assistant		✓	
Provider's spouse		✓	
Provider's minor children			
Other adults living in the Provider's home		✓	
Center			
Teaching staff		✓	
Center director		✓	
Other nonteaching staff		✓	
North Carolina			
Family child care			
Provider	✓		
Provider's assistant	✓		
Provider's spouse	✓		
Provider's minor children	✓		
Other adults living in the provider's home	✓		
Group home[c]			
Provider			
Provider's assistant			
Provider's spouse			
Provider's minor children			
Other adults living in the provider's home			
Center			
Teaching staff	✓		
Center director	✓		
Other nonteaching staff	✓		

	State criminal history	State child abuse registry	FBI
North Dakota			
Family child care			
Provider		✓	
Provider's assistant		✓	
Provider's spouse			
Provider's minor children			
Other adults living in the provider's home			
Group home			
Provider		✓	
Provider's assistant		✓	
Provider's spouse			
Provider's minor children			
Other adults living in the provider's home			
Center			
Teaching staff		✓	
Center director		✓	
Other nonteaching staff			
Ohio			
Family child care			
Provider	✓		
Provider's assistant	✓		
Provider's spouse	✓		
Provider's minor children	✓		
Other adults living in the provider's home	✓		
Group home			
Provider	✓		✓
Provider's assistant	✓		✓
Provider's spouse	✓		✓
Provider's minor children			
Other adults living in the provider's home	✓		✓
Center			
Teaching staff	✓		✓
Center director	✓		✓
Other nonteaching staff	✓		✓

	State criminal history	State child abuse registry	FBI
Oklahoma			
Family child care			
Provider	✓	✓	
Provider's assistant	✓		
Provider's spouse	✓	✓	
Provider's minor children			
Other adults living in the provider's home	✓		
Group home[c]			
Provider			
Provider's assistant			
Provider's spouse			
Provider's minor children			
Other adults living in the provider's home			
Center			
Teaching staff	✓		
Center director	✓		
Other nonteaching staff	✓		
Oregon			
Family child care			
Provider	✓	✓	✓
Provider's assistant	✓	✓	✓
Provider's spouse	✓	✓	✓
Provider's minor children			
Other adults living in the provider's home	✓	✓	✓
Group home			
Provider	✓	✓	✓
Provider's assistant	✓	✓	✓
Provider's spouse	✓	✓	✓
Provider's minor children			
Other adults living in the provider's home	✓	✓	✓
Center			
Teaching staff	✓	✓	✓
Center director	✓	✓	✓
Other nonteaching staff	✓	✓	✓

	State criminal history	State child abuse registry	FBI
Pennsylvania			
Family child care			
Provider	✓	✓	
Provider's assistant	✓	✓	
Provider's spouse			
Provider's minor children			
Other adults living in the provider's home			
Group home			
Provider	✓	✓	
Provider's assistant	✓	✓	
Provider's spouse			
Provider's minor children			
Other adults living in the provider's home			
Center			
Teaching staff	✓	✓	
Center director	✓	✓	
Other nonteaching staff			
Rhode Island			
Family child care			
Provider	✓	✓	✓
Provider's assistant	✓	✓	✓
Provider's spouse	✓	✓	
Provider's minor children		✓	
Other adults living in the provider's home	✓	✓	
Group home			
Provider	✓	✓	✓
Provider's assistant	✓	✓	✓
Provider's spouse	✓	✓	
Provider's minor children		✓	
Other adults living in the provider's home	✓	✓	
Center			
Teaching staff		✓	✓
Center director		✓	✓
Other nonteaching staff			

	State criminal history	State child abuse registry	FBI
South Carolina			
Family child care			
Provider	✓	✓	✓
Provider's assistant	✓	✓	✓
Provider's spouse	✓	✓	✓
Provider's minor children	✓	✓	✓
Other adults living in the provider's home	✓	✓	✓
Group home			
Provider	✓	✓	✓
Provider's assistant	✓	✓	✓
Provider's spouse			
Provider's minor children			
Other adults living in the provider's home			
Center			
Teaching staff	✓	✓	✓
Center director	✓	✓	✓
Other nonteaching staff			
South Dakota			
Family child care			
Provider		✓	
Provider's assistant		✓	
Provider's spouse		✓	
Provider's minor children		✓	
Other adults living in the provider's home		✓	
Group home			
Provider		✓	
Provider's assistant		✓	
Provider's spouse		✓	
Provider's minor children		✓	
Other adults living in the provider's home		✓	
Center			
Teaching staff		✓	
Center director		✓	
Other nonteaching staff		✓	

	State criminal history	State child abuse registry	FBI
Tennessee*			
Family child care			
Provider			
Provider's assistant			
Provider's spouse			
Provider's minor children			
Other adults living in the provider's home			
Group home			
Provider			
Provider's assistant			
Provider's spouse			
Provider's minor children			
Other adults living in the provider's home			
Center			
Teaching staff			
Center director			
Other nonteaching staff			
Texas			
Family child care			
Provider	✓	✓	
Provider's assistant	✓	✓	
Provider's spouse	✓	✓	
Provider's minor children	✓	✓	
Other adults living in the provider's home	✓	✓	
Group home			
Provider	✓	✓	
Provider's assistant	✓	✓	
Provider's spouse	✓	✓	
Provider's minor children	✓	✓	
Other adults living in the provider's home	✓	✓	
Center			
Teaching staff	✓	✓	
Center director	✓	✓	
Other nonteaching staff	✓	✓	

	State criminal history	State child abuse registry	FBI
Utah			
Family child care			
Provider	✓	✓	✓
Provider's assistant	✓	✓	✓
Provider's spouse	✓	✓	✓
Provider's minor children			
Other adults living in the provider's home	✓	✓	✓
Group home			
Provider	✓	✓	✓
Provider's assistant	✓	✓	✓
Provider's spouse	✓	✓	✓
Provider's minor children			
Other adults living in the provider's home	✓	✓	✓
Center			
Teaching staff	✓	✓	✓
Center director	✓	✓	✓
Other nonteaching staff	✓	✓	✓
Vermont			
Family child care			
Provider	✓	✓	
Provider's assistant		✓	
Provider's spouse	✓	✓	
Provider's minor children		✓	
Other adults living in the provider's home	✓	✓	
Group home			
Provider	✓	✓	
Provider's assistant	✓	✓	
Provider's spouse	✓	✓	
Provider's minor children		✓	
Other adults living in the provider's home	✓	✓	
Center			
Teaching staff	✓	✓	
Center director	✓	✓	
Other nonteaching staff	✓	✓	

	State criminal history	State child abuse registry	FBI
Virginia			
Family child care			
Provider	✓	✓	
Provider's assistant	✓	✓	
Provider's spouse	✓	✓	
Provider's minor children	✓	✓	
Other adults living in the provider's home	✓	✓	
Group home[c]			
Provider			
Provider's assistant			
Provider's spouse			
Provider's minor children			
Other adults living in the provider's home			
Center			
Teaching staff	✓	✓	
Center director	✓	✓	
Other nonteaching staff	✓	✓	
Washington			
Family child care			
Provider	✓	✓	
Provider's assistant	✓	✓	
Provider's spouse	✓	✓	
Provider's minor children	✓	✓	
Other adults living in the provider's home	✓		
Group home			
Provider			
Provider's assistant			
Provider's spouse			
Provider's minor children			
Other adults living in the provider's home			
Center			
Teaching staff	✓		
Center director	✓		
Other nonteaching staff	✓		

	State criminal history	State child abuse registry	FBI
West Virginia			
Family child care			
Provider	✓		
Provider's assistant	✓		
Provider's spouse	✓		
Provider's minor children			
Other adults living in the provider's home	✓		
Group home			
Provider	✓		
Provider's assistant	✓		
Provider's spouse	✓		
Provider's minor children			
Other adults living in the provider's home	✓		
Center			
Teaching staff	✓		
Center director	✓		
Other nonteaching staff	✓		
Wisconsin			
Family child care			
Provider	✓		
Provider's assistant	✓		
Provider's spouse	✓		
Provider's minor children	✓		
Other adults living in the provider's home	✓		
Group home[c]			
Provider			
Provider's assistant			
Provider's spouse			
Provider's minor children			
Other adults living in the provider's home			
Center			
Teaching staff	✓		
Center director	✓		
Other nonteaching staff	✓		

	State criminal history	State child - abuse registry	FBI
Wyoming[a]			
Family child care			
Provider			
Provider's assistant			
Provider's spouse			
Provider's minor children			
Other adults living in the provider's home			
Group home			
Provider			
Provider's assistant			
Provider's spouse			
Provider's minor children			
Other adults living in the Provider's home			
Center			
Teaching staff			
Center director			
Other nonteaching staff			

[a]This state does not require background checks.

[b]This state did not respond to the survey.

[c]This state does not have group home providers.

[d]This state provided data for the group home provider category but referred to these providers as small child care centers.

Source: Analysis of data collected for our report Child Care: State Efforts to Enforce Safety and Health Requirements (GAO/HEHS-00-28, Jan. 24, 2000).

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